IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 17 through 18 with the following amended claims; and cancel Claims 2, 4, 7, 9, 12, 15 and 16.

1. [Currently amended] A method of playing a draw poker game including initially dealt cards, an opportunity for a player to hold at least one of said initially dealt cards and a final hand composition, said method comprising:

placing a first wager that a final hand composition will match one of a plurality of preselected combination of cards that are ranked in a particular order;

dealing a hand of initially dealt cards;

determining whether said initially dealt cards match one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards and determining a ranking of said initially dealt cards;

selecting none, one, or more held cards from said hand of dealt cards;

offering at least one proposition bet that the based on a possible final hand composition will match a particular one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards after said initially dealt cards are dealt, unless all initially dealt cards are held, wherein said particular one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards is ranked higher than the ranking of said initially dealt cards;

accepting said at least one proposition bet as a second wager if said proposition bet is offered;

dealing one additional card to replace each card not held to provide a final hand composition;

determining if said final hand composition matches said at least one proposition bet, if said at least one proposition bet is offered and accepted; and

2

determining if said final hand matches one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards as to the first wager.

2.   [Canceled]

3.   [Original] The method of Claim 1 wherein the poker game is 5-card draw poker.

4.   [Canceled]

5.   [Currently amended]   The method of Claim [[4]] 3 wherein the held cards are automatically held upon acceptance of the second wager.

6.   [Currently amended]   A method of playing a draw poker game including initially dealt cards, an opportunity for a player to hold at least one of said initially dealt cards and a final hand composition, said method comprising:

placing a first wager that a final hand composition will match one of a plurality of preselected combination of cards that are ranked in a particular order;

dealing a hand of initially dealt cards;

determining whether said initially dealt cards match one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards and determining a ranking of said initially dealt cards;

offering at least one proposition bet, after said initially dealt cards are dealt, that said based on a possible final hand composition will match a particular one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards that is ranked higher than the ranking of said initially dealt cards, after said initially dealt cards are dealt, unless it is not possible to improve the poker hand ranking of the initially dealt cards;

selecting none, one, or more held cards from said hand of dealt cards;

accepting said at least one proposition bet as a second wager if said proposition bet is offered;

3

dealing one additional card to replace each card not held, to provide a final hand composition;

determining if said final hand composition matches said at least one proposition bet, if said at least one proposition bet is offered and accepted; and

determining if said final composition hand matches one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards as to the first wager.

7. [Canceled]

8. [Original] The method of Claim 6 where the poker game is 5-card draw poker.

9. [Canceled]

10. [Currently amended] The method of Claim [[9]] 8 wherein the held cards are automatically held upon acceptance of the second wager.

11. [Currently amended] A method for playing a poker game including an initially dealt hand of cards, a final hand composition and rankings of said possible poker hands, said method comprising:

placing a first wager that a final hand composition will match one of a plurality of preselected combination of cards that are ranked in a particular order;

dealing one or more initially dealt cards;

analyzing said dealt cards and undealt cards to determine possible final hand compositions and to determine whether said initially dealt cards match one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards and a ranking of said initially dealt cards;

providing at least one proposition bet, for at least one possible final hand composition after said initially dealt cards are dealt, that said final hand composition will match a particular one of

said plurality of preselected combination of cards that is ranked higher than the ranking of said initially dealt cards, unless it is not possible to improve the ranking of the initially dealt cards;

accepting said at least one proposition bet and making a second wager;

dealing the necessary cards to complete the hand providing said final hand composition;

determining if said final hand composition matches said at least one proposition bet; and

determining if said final hand matches one of a plurality of preselected combination of

cards with respect to said first wager.

12.   [Canceled]

13.   [Currently amended]   A poker game played by a player including an initial hand of cards

and a final hand of cards, wherein wagers may be placed that said final hand of cards will match

one of a plurality of preselected combination of cards that are ranked in a particular order, said

poker game comprising:

a computing device for implementing said game, said computing device having a screen

display;

a microprocessor in communication with said screen display;

a selection device in communication with said microprocessor for providing means by

which the player interacts with said computing device;

a power supply in electrical communication with said screen display, said microprocessor

and said selection device for providing power thereto;

a hand of cards displayed on said screen display;

card determining means in communication with said computing device for randomly

determining in succession the composition of said initial hand of cards and for randomly

determining the composition of said final hand of cards;

means for determining whether said initial hand of cards matches one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards and a ranking thereof, and

card combination determining means for analyzing said hand of cards to determine possible final hands so as to provide the player with at least one proposition bet that said final hand of cards will match one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards that is ranked higher than the ranking of said initial hand of cards, wherein said proposition bet is selected to select based on the said composition of said final hand after said initial hand of cards is displayed.

14. [Currently amended] A poker game played by a player including an initial hand of cards and a final hand of cards, wherein wagers may be placed that said final hand of cards will match one of a plurality of preselected combination of cards that are ranked in a particular order, said poker game said game comprising:

a computing device for implementing said game, said computing device having a screen display;

a microprocessor in communication with said screen display;

a selection device in communication with said microprocessor for providing means by which the player interacts with said computing device;

a power supply in electrical communication with said screen display, said microprocessor and said selection device for providing power thereo;

an initial hand of cards displayed on said screen display;

card determining means in communication with said computing device for randomly determining in succession the composition of said initial hand of cards and for randomly determining the composition of said final hand of cards;

means for determining whether said initial hand of cards matches one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards and a ranking thereof, and

card combination determining means for analyzing said initial hand of cards to determine possible final hands to provide the player with a plurality of proposition bets ~~to choose from~~ that said final hand of cards will match one of said plurality of preselected combination of cards that is ranked higher than said ranking of said initial hand of cards, wherein said proposition bet is selected after said initial hand of cards is displayed, and,

said card determining means determining the composition of said final hand of cards and dealing the cards needed to complete the hand, so as to provide a payout to the player based on the composition of said final hand of cards.

15. [Canceled]

16. [Canceled]

17. [Currently amended]   The method of Claim 1[[6]] wherein said plurality of preselected combination of cards comprises ~~specific card combination is one or more of the following~~: Royal Flush, Straight Flush, Straight, Flush, Full House, Three of a Kind, Two Pair and One Pair.

18. [Currently amended]   The method of Claim 1[[5]] wherein said machine automatically determines the player cards to hold when the player places the wager.